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HIGHLIGHTS OF SELF EMPLOYMENT OF ETHNOCULTURAL GROUPS IN CANADA

Report 2: British, French, and other groups in selected industries (in Canada, Ontario and Toronto)

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A. INTRODUCTION TO REPORT 2

The highlights presented in the following pages are all derived from special tabulations provided by Statistics Canada from the 1981 Census. The focus here is on Canada, Ontario, and Toronto.(1) Seven industry categories are examined in comparison to each other and to all other industries grouped together. The seven industry categories are the following divisions of the Standard Industrial Classification (1970):

- Division 4: Mining (Including Milling), Quarries, and Oil Industries
- Division 5: Manufacturing Industries
- Division 6: Construction Industry
- Division 7: Transportation, Communication and Other Utilities
- Division 8: Trade (Wholesale and Retail)
- Division 9: Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
- Division 10: Community, Business and Personal Service Industries.

Other industrial divisions which were grouped together are: Division 1 (Agriculture), Division 2 (Forestry), Division 3 (Fishing and Trapping), and Division 11 (Public Administration and Defence).

The ethnic origin categories that are examined in this report are three groupings:

(i) all those who in the 1981 Census of Canada indicated having a British or French origin, or both, and no other origin(s);

(ii) all those who indicated having origins other than British or French; and

(iii) all those who indicated having a British or French origin, or both, but as well having some other origin(s).

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(1) The definition of Toronto as used in this report is the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area, as defined by Statistics Canada.

Self employed persons of the above ethnic origins are compared, in the highlights, to the labour force in general. All those who reported being self employed in the 1981 Census are included in the definition of "self employment".

In some of the tables used for the analysis in this report, figures in sub-categories do not always exactly add up to the indicated totals. This is due to rounding in sub-categories by Statistics Canada. When small numbers are involved, say 200 persons or less, this could mean significant statistical discrepancy. In the large majority of cases, however, there is no discrepancy.

B. HIGHLIGHTS

1. CANADA

Comparison of Male and Female Self Employment

- In the 1981 Census about 9 in every 100 Canadians in the labour force reported being self employed.(1) If males are examined separately, this figure is 12 in 100 men, while for females it is 4 in 100 women. Relatively, 3 times as many males reported being self employed, in comparison to females. The actual total number of men who are self employed, however, is over 4 times higher than the total number of women who are self employed, since men make up a larger proportion of the labour force.

Self Employment In Different Industries

- The highest relative proportion of those who reported being self employed are in the construction industry. About 18 in 100 persons working in the construction industry are self employed. The next single industry division with a relatively high proportion of individuals reporting self employment is Trade (wholesale and retail). About 11 in 100 persons in Trade are self-employed.

- It should be noted, however, that in actual numbers, Community, Business and Personal Services(2) is the industrial category with the largest number of self employed persons, making up 27 per cent of all those

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(1) Self employed persons as defined here are all those who reported being self employed and incorporated without paid help, self employed and incorporated with paid help, self employed and unincorporated without paid help, and self employed and unincorporated with paid help.

(2) This includes education and related services, health and welfare, religious organizations, amusement and recreation, services to business management, personal services, accommodation and food, and other miscellaneous services.

reporting self employment in Canada. On the other hand, of every 100 persons in this category 8 are self employed, compared to 18 and 11 persons out of every 100 persons in Construction and in Trade, respectively.

- The industrial categories with the fewest number of self employed persons, compared to all self employed, are Mines, Quarries and Oil (with less than 1 per cent of the total), and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (with about 2 per cent of the total).

Differences In Self Employment of Ethnic Groups

- In Canada as a whole, those persons in the labour force who reported ethnic origins other than British or French, have a relatively larger representation in self employment than those who reported some British or French origin. Out of every 100 individuals with other ethnic origins 12 persons are self employed, compared to 8 in 100 of those with some British or French origins. In fact, this higher relative representation in self employment, for the other-than-British-or-French-origin group, is true in all industries, albeit with varying margins of difference.

- In actual number comparisons, 36 per cent of all self employed persons in Canada are of reported ethnic origins with no British or French connections, the balance having some British or French relation.

Ethnic Participation in Different Industries

- If self employment is looked at separately, respectively in each industrial category, the lowest participation of the other-than-British-or-French-origin group is 30 per cent, in the Transportation, Communication and Utilities industries. The highest level of this participation is in Construction (with 40 per cent of all self employed in this industrial category having no British or French origin).

- In all other industries, the degree of participation of the other-than-British-or-French-origin group is between 30 and 40 per cent of those who are self employed in each industry, respectively.

Evenness In Labour Force Participation of British-French Group Compared to Others

- The distributions of total labour force participants, i.e., self employed plus others, over the various industry categories examined, are remarkably similar between the persons with ethnic origins other than British or French, and those with some British or French origin(s). The major difference is in Manufacturing, which employs 21 per cent of all workers who have no British or French origin, in comparison to about 18 per cent of all workers who have some British or French origin. Other industries have marginal differences with respect to the representativeness of workers, self employed plus others, from these ethnic groupings.

- The largest industrial category, Community, Business and Personal Services, employs 29 per cent of all those with no British or French origin(s), and similarly employs 29 per cent of all those with some British or French origin(s).

Evenness In Industry Participation of Self Employed Persons of British-French Origin Compared to Others

- When only the distributions of self employed labour force participants, over the various industry categories, are examined, a similarly remarkable evenness in representation is evident between those who reported some British or French origin(s) versus those with no British or French origin(s). The main difference in this case being in the Trade industries, which preoccupy 21 per cent of all the self employed British-or-French-origin group versus 19 per cent of the self employed other-than-British-or-French-origin group. Other differences in the relative industry representativeness of self employed workers, for both ethnic groups being discussed, are marginal.

2. ONTARIO

Differences In Self Employment of Ethnic Groups

- In Ontario, those persons in the labour force who reported ethnic origins other than British or French, have a relatively larger representation in self employment than those who reported some British or French origin. Out of every 100 individuals with other ethnic origins 10 persons are self employed, compared to 7 in 100 of those with some British or French origins. This higher relative representation in self employment, for the other-than-British-or-French-origin group, is true in all industries, albeit with varying margins of difference.

- In actual number comparisons, 41 per cent of all self employed persons in Ontario are of reported ethnic origins with no British or French connections, the balance having some British or French relation. This 41 per cent is contrasted with the lower comparable figure of 36 per cent for all of Canada.

Ethnic Participation in Different Industries

- If self employment is looked at separately, respectively in each industrial category, the representation of the other-than-British-or-French-origin group in Ontario is generally over 40 per cent in every category — the main exceptions being Mines, Quarries and Oil (with 24 per cent of all self employed in this category having no British or French origin) and Transportation, Communication and Utilities (with 33 per cent of all self employed in this category having no British or French origin).

- The highest level of representation of the other-than-British-or-French-origin group is in Manufacturing (with 49 per cent of all self employed in this industrial category having no British or French origin — this is notably higher than the comparable figure for Canada of 38 per cent).

Evenness In Labour Force Participation of British-French Group Compared to Others

- The distributions of total labour force participants in Ontario, self employed plus others, over the various industry categories examined, are, like for Canada as a whole, remarkably similar between the persons with ethnic origins other than British or French, and those with some British or French origin(s). The major difference is in Manufacturing, which employs 27 per cent of all workers who have no British or French origin, in comparison to about 22 per cent of all workers who have some British or French origin. Other industries have marginal differences with respect to the representativeness of workers, self employed plus others, from these ethnic groupings.

- The largest industrial category, Community, Business and Personal Services, employs 28 per cent of all those with no British or French origin(s), and similarly employs 28 per cent of all those with some British or French origin(s).

Evenness In Industry Participation of Self Employed Persons of British-French Origin Compared to Others

- When only the distributions of self employed labour force participants, over the various industry categories in Ontario, are examined, a similarly remarkable evenness in representation is evident between those who reported some British or French origin(s) versus those with no British or French origin(s). This parallels the same conclusion found for Canada as a whole. The main difference in Ontario's case being in the Other industry divisions (Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Trapping, and Public Administration and Defence) which as a grouped industrial category preoccupies 23 per cent of all the self employed British-or-French-origin group versus 16 per cent of the self employed other-than-British-or-French-origin group. Other differences in the relative industry representativeness of self employed workers in Ontario, for both ethnic groups being discussed, are very small.

3. TORONTO

Differences In Self Employment of Ethnic Groups

- In Toronto, those persons in the labour force who reported ethnic origins other than British or French, have, as in Canada and Ontario in general, a relatively larger representation in self employment than those who reported some British or French origin. Out of every 100 individuals with other ethnic origins 9 persons are self employed, compared to 6 in 100 of those with some British or French origin. This higher relative representation in self employment, for the other-than-British-or-French-origin group, is true in all industries. The most significant is the Trade (wholesale and retail) industries, where 13 in every 100 persons with no British or French origin are self-employed, compared to 6 in every 100 persons with some British or French origin.

- In actual number comparisons, 57 per cent of all self employed persons in Toronto are of reported ethnic origins with no British or French connections, the balance having some British or French relation. This 57 per cent is a marked contrast to the lower comparable figures of 36 per cent for all of Canada and 41 per cent for Ontario.

Ethnic Participation in Different Industries

- If self employment is looked at separately, respectively in each industrial category, the representation of the other-than-British-or-French-origin group in Toronto is generally over 50 per cent in every category — the main exceptions being Mines, Quarries and Oil (with 35 per cent of all self employed in this category having no British or French origin) and the Other industry divisions — Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Trapping, and Public Administration and Defence (with 41 per cent of all self employed in this category having no British or French origin).

- The highest level of representation of the other-than-British-or-French-origin group is in the Trade industries (with 64 per cent of all self employed in this industrial category having no British or French origin -- this is notably higher than the comparable figures for Canada and Ontario of 38 per cent and 49 per cent, respectively). Close seconds to Trade in Toronto are Manufacturing and Construction, each with 62 per cent of all self employed in these respective categories having no British or French origins.

Evenness In Labour Force Participation of British-French Group Compared to Others

- The distributions of total labour force participants in Toronto, self employed plus others, over the various industry categories examined, are, as for Canada and Ontario, remarkably similar between the persons with ethnic origins other than British or French, and those with some British or French origin(s). The major difference again is in Manufacturing, which employs 27 per cent of all workers who have no British or French origin, in comparison to about 22 per cent of all workers who have some British or French origin. Other industries have small differences with respect to the representativeness of workers, self employed plus others, from these ethnic groupings in Toronto.

- The largest industrial category, Community, Business and Personal Services, employs 29 per cent of all those with no British or French origin(s), and similarly employs 30 per cent of all those with some British or French origin(s).

Evenness In Industry Participation of Self Employed Persons of British-French Origin Compared to Others

- When only the distributions of self employed labour force participants, over the various industry categories in Toronto, are examined, evenness in representation is evident in most industries, between those who reported some British or French origin(s) versus those with no British or French origin(s). The main differences in

Toronto's case being in the Trade industries, which preoccupy 19 per cent of all the self employed British-or-French-origin group versus 25 per cent of the self employed other-than-British-or-French-origin group; and the Community, Business and Personal Services industries which preoccupy 47 per cent of all the self employed British-or-French-origin group versus 40 per cent of the self employed other-than-British-or-French origin group.